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"My Day's Work Is Done"

THE Right Honorable William Lyon Mackenzie King said good-bye to the cabinet ministers and the parliamentary press gallery, announcing his retirement with this statement, "I think my days work is done", to wh'ch the Digest adds, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant".

Ill health, brought on through the strain of the war years, and the pressure and strain of the events of the past year, have forced the Prime Minister's retirement.

His has been a long term of public service, exceeding twenty one years, a tenancy of premiership which outdistances the years of such service for any prime minister of Canada, including that grand old man of historical memory, Sir Wilfred Laurier.

Mr. St. Laurent, former Minister of Justice, will be Acting Prime Minister and while there has been no announcement of new portfolios, we have been advised that the former Premier of Manitoba, Premier Garson, will have the portfolio of Minister of Justice which was held by Mr. St. Laurent.

The Governor-General of Canada on Monday, November 15th at the hour of 11 a.m. received the resignation of the Prime Minister at Rideau Hall, Ottawa.

Sir Wilfred Laurier, of whom I have heard my father frequently speak, since he had the honour and the distinction of being a personal friend of his, was a bachelor. Sir John MacDonald, another of our Canadian Prime Ministers, was a bachelor, as were also, Lord Bennett, and Mr. King.

Mr. St. Laurent, who will be Acting Prime Minister, is married and has a family.

While the bachelor state of former Prime Ministers did not diminish the brilliant statesmanship of the gentlemen herein named, I wonder if being the Father of their country would not have had an added quality had they also been the fathers of families of their own.

THE RT. HON. W. L. MACKENZIE KING

Public service is as exacting a mistress as are the Arts and Letters, but surely one facet of exceeding brilliance is lost in the Jewel of Life for any man whose destiny marks him to live alone.

Being married to our Lady of the Snows (Canada) is a brilliant marriage, but when we think of little children, we are prompted to repeat, "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven".

—THE EDITOR

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Maritime Exhibitors Meet A. J. Mason Re-elected President

by Alice Fairweather

THE largest gathering of exhibitors and theatre owners ever held in the Maritimes took place on November 10th, when the Maritime Allied Exhibitors' Association got together for their annual meeting at Saint John, N.B. in the Admiral Beatty Hotel. A. J. Mason, Springhill, N.S., was re-elected president.

F. Gordon Spencer, Saint John, was elected vice-president for New Brunswick; Fred Gregor, Halifax, vice-president for Nova Scotia and Harold Gaudet, Summerside, vice-president for Prince Edward Island. P. J. Dwyer of Halifax is secretary-treasurer.

Directors of the association are, for New Brunswick, W. W. O. Fenety of Fredericton and F. Gordon Spencer of Saint John; for Nova Scotia, R. G. Roddick, Halifax and A. A. Fielding, formerly of Saint John and now of Bridgewater and for Prince Edward Island, George Walters of Charlottetown and Bruce H. Yeo of Montague.

F. Gordon Spencer is chairman and Mr. Roddick is secretary of an additional executive group. Other members are Mr. Fenety, W. H. Cuzner, representing Nova Scotia, and Mr. Walters and Mr. Gaudet from P.E.I.

Sessions were held during the morning and afternoon when a high spot was an address by Ray Lewis who was most warmly welcomed.

Among the business taken up was a discussion of rates submitted by the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada and a letter will be sent to the National Exhibitors Association regarding the establishment of new rates as the present ones are regarded as too high owing to the drop in attendance at theatres.

The matter of showings being held in unlicensed halls and buildings, which are not fireproof was discussed and a resolution passed that Provincial Governments be requested to tighten up safety regulations for places where people are gathered together. The matter of Bingo playing came up, and municipalities will be asked to enforce stricter measures in that direction.

A newspaper report emanating from a body of judges meeting in England stated that after serious study of the influence of motion pictures on the youthful mind this body could find no evidence that films contributed to juvenile delinquency. This statement will be publicized and it is felt should be widely known as an answer to the adverse criticism of those who have not given the subject sufficient study.

There was a lively discussion of various forms of discriminatory taxes frequently suggested by different legislative bodies. The necessity for developing a strong Public Relations Committee to represent the Industry as a whole including both Exhibitors and Distributors was stressed.

An interesting feature of the meeting was the reading of the minutes of a meeting held by the first Exhibitors' League of the Maritimes in 1914. Of these only Joe Franklin, F. G. Spencer, Peter Leger of Bathurst and W. W. O. Fenety of Fredericton are living today. Many of the Exhibitors present and past, have sons who are carrying on at theatres to the second generation.

The Association has 139 members in all, 43 of whom were present at the Saint John meeting, representing every part of the Provinces. There are 70 theatres in N.S., 55 in N.B., and 14 in P.E.I.

A banquet was held on Wednesday evening to which the men from the Saint John Exchanges were invited and represented, as well as officials connected with the Industry. F. G. Spencer was chairman and seated at the head table were Miss Ray Lewis, editor of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest; Hon. James Brittain, Minister of Education for New Brunswick; Deputy Mayor G. E. Howard; Frank C. Owens, Chairman of the N.B. Board of Censors; S. Doanne, Board of Censors for Nova Scotia; Fred Gregor, New Waterford N.S.; P. J. Dwyer, Halifax; George Walters, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; and your Digest correspondent, Alice L. Fairweather.

Mr. Spencer welcomed the guests and gave a brief review of activities. The Hon. James Brittain spoke on the Industry's task of advancing education and tolerance towards a better world. Mr. Howard, in the name of the City of Saint John invited the delegates to return and hoped their stay would be an enjoyable one. R. G. Roddick spoke well and sincerely on the encouragement of the Tourist Industry and how the exhibitors and distributors could give their support to this aim, citing what J. J. Fitzgibbons had already been able to accomplish.

The hit of the evening was made by Ray Lewis who, in her own inimitable way held the attention of those present and talked about the Industry's great influence, describing how its contribution to the war effort was outstanding among other activities. Her speech was witty and arresting and she was given rounds of applause at its close.

At the Maritime Allied Exhibitors Association Annual Meeting in Saint John, N.B.

A group of exhibitor members snapped during the meeting.

GUEST TABLE AT THE BANQUET HELD IN THE EVENING

Left to right: P. J. Dwyer of Halifax, N.S., Secretary-treasurer; F. G. Spencer of Saint John, N.B., Ray Lewis, Editor of Canadian Moving Picture Digest, Toronto, Ontario; R. S. Roddick, Halifax, N.S., Director; F. Gordon Spencer, Saint John, N.B., Chairman-Vice-President; Hon. James W. Brittain, Minister of Education for the Province of New Brunswick.

RAY PRESENTS

ST. JOHN, N.B., where my old friends F. G. Spencer, Joe Lieberman and Mitchell Bernstein (B & L), and Joe Franklin (Franklin & Herschorn) operate circuits of theatres.

F. G. Spencer's circuit is affiliated with F.P.C.C., but B & L, Franklin & Herschorn, Malcolm Walker, operate as Independents. A. Garson has several theatres, his circuit affiliated with Odeon.

At the meeting in St. John of the Maritime Exhibitors Association, approximately sixty exhibitors were present, who operate theatres in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Since Alice Fairweather, The Digest's Maritime correspondent, will cover the Maritime Exhibitors Convention, I will not enlarge on the Ray Presents presentation, save to mention that on Tuesday night preceding the Maritime Exhibitors' Sessions, the pioneers had their meeting, and elected Bob Roddick as president, and inducted several new members.

There was a morning session on Wednesday with election of officers, followed by a luncheon, at which time as one of the speakers, I gave a history of the Pioneers and our Benevolent Fund.

WHEN I arrived at St. John, I felt like the prodigal son who had returned home, for whom there was a warm joyous welcome and for whom the family had killed the fatted calf.

Had I been the Princess Royal, on a visit to St. John, I could not have received a more gracious welcome than I received from my own Show Folks, who all made me feel as if I were a most important visitor.

As I looked at these exhibitors from the Maritimes, the dean of our Industry, F. G. Spencer, I felt indeed that here were members of our Industry among whom were the salt of the earth, men belonging to the soil of this part of Canada, and possessing within their being the elements of that rocky structure upon which this city has been built.

Bob Roddick was here from Halifax and Archie Mason from Springhill, N.S., Fred Gregor and my old friend W. W. O. Fenety, whom I recently had the pleasure of seeing at Niagara Falls, at the F.P.C.C. Eastern Convention.

THERE were some women exhibitors present, among whom I met Mrs. Fournier and Mrs. Nesbitt.

I was interested in the new generation of showmen, the young sons who are carrying on in the tradition of their fathers, like Gordon and Gerald Spencer, Peter Herschorn, Mitch Franklin, and sons-in-law of our veteran showmen, who are in the exhibitors field, A. Garson's son-in-law Lee April and Joe Franklin's son-in-law Sam Babb. They look smart to me!

Larry Druxerman, S.R.O. Quebec and Maritimes representative was at the dinner, as was also my old friend Pat Hogan of Paramount, Louis Simon of Columbia Pictures, as a matter of fact all the branch managers attended the dinner and with the exhibitors were guests at a cocktail party given by Alliance Films Ltd. at the Admiral Beatty Hotel following the afternoon session and preceding the dinner.

I WAS a little surprised that the Distributors as a group had made no arrangement for the entertainment of the Exhibitors of the Maritime Provinces, some of whom had travelled hundreds of miles to attend this formation of a Maritime Association.

The formation of a Maritime Exhibitors' Association is an important event, and such a formation is not only for the benefit of the Exhibitors only, but for the benefit of the Distributors and the entire Industry. I think that this would have been an occasion when the Distributors with branch offices in St. John, should have entertained the customers to whom they have been selling product for years and years.

John J. Fitzgibbons, at the Eastern F.P. Convention, reminded those present that one takes out what one gives, that one cannot successfully remain on the receiving end only.

ST. JOHN is a very old city of historical importance. I have been told that the St. John River is 450 miles long, the longest river in the world, sometimes referred to as the Rhine of the East, but it has the smallest mouth of any river, banked by two high cliffs; this makes a passage between the mouth possible only when the tide is high and at rest. There are many legendary tales about the mouth of this river.

The Bay of Fundy with its salt water, which meets with the fresh water of the St. John River, is banked with a shore-line on the river and bay, which presents an inspiration for the brush of an artist and the pen of a poet.

If you stand upon the bridge at St. John to look at the Reversing Falls, you will observe that the water flows up and down, making a whirlpool which never gives up the bodies of the unfortunate dead, who have jumped, or fallen into its whirling waters.

THE water of the river has a salty tinge, which makes swimming an added pleasure, for in the waves which lap the beaches of the shoreline, fresh and salt water intermingle.

St. John's precincts are a haven of refuge for hay-fever victims, who, from May to October, come here for relief, for health and for comfort; and they tell me that from Maine, U.S.A., Americans numbering into thousands, come for bathing, for the benefit of an even temperature and for Isaac Walton's fisherman's paradise.

Two bridges are your only exit from St. John, and should these bridges be roped off, no one could get out of the city.

I have had so many delicious lobsters here that my face is red for being such a gourmand. Mr. F. G. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Lieberman, Mr. and Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Ellman have been my hosts and hostesses, and between speeches, I have been wined and dined, in a fashion comparable to that which I enjoy when I visit New York and my dear friends Mr. and Mrs. George Margolin, of Continental Motion Pictures take over to show me the best places in New York to eat.

ALICE FAIRWEATHER had a tea for me, and invited to this tea, as her guests, representatives of the Film Convenors of all the women's organizations which you can name, from I.O.D.E., Local Council of Women, Hadassah, Women's Catholic League, Professional Women's Club, etc., etc.

You, who know Alice Fairweather, will be happy to learn that this dear and gracious friend of our Industry is well and still carrying on with that spirit of service with which her name has always been identified.

You will be interested to know also that our Alice, during the war years, mothered 80,000 seamen who passed through here, many of whom still write to their angel of St. John.

(Continued on Page 12)

Toronto and District

By BILL PRESS

A FINE sense of censoring has been developed by the Canadian Children's Film Library Committee which has been examining features at Toronto film exchanges at the rate of three a day for some little time. Up to Nov. 11 the committee had reviewed 17 pictures five of which had been rejected as unsuitable for children from 8 to 12 years old. Various reasons have been given for the rejections.

The committee turned down "The Story of Alexander Graham Bell" because it was historically incorrect — no credit is given Brantford, Ont., as the birthplace of the telephone. Although considered to be an excellent production otherwise, "Great Expectations" was struck off the list on the ground that it was too mature for youngsters. "Nicholas Nickleby" was refused for the same reason.

"Little Miss Marker" was ruled out reportedly because it dealt with American history, while "Barefoot Boy" was not acceptable on the ground that the production technique was considered too antiquated. Thus there has been developed what might be called a new code of censorship.

Approved pictures of former years, approximately 50 of which have been made available in the United States, are to be placed in branches of the Children's Film Library at Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver and St. John, where they will be booked at nominal rentals for Saturday juvenile shows in theatres or otherwise. The Canadian program is being worked out by Mrs. Marjorie Dawson of New York, representing the MPAA, in conjunction with the committee which is headed by Mrs. D. W. McGibbon of the IODE.

* * *

Toronto has been hard hit by the power blackouts which have totalled two hours and 45 minutes daily from Monday to Friday inclusive with the result that the race is on to install auxiliary generators in theatres where they can be afforded.

First to announce a change in policy because of power interruptions was Canadian Odeon which discontinued the matinees at the Danforth and Fairlawn Theatres except on Saturday.

* * *

At the meeting of the Hamilton Theatre Managers' Association R. E. Maynard, manager of the Palace Theatre, was elected president and Mel Jolley, manager of the Century Theatre, vice-president for the fiscal year ending November, 1949. Those elected on the Board of Directors for the coming season are: Mrs. Jean Ford, secretary-treasurer, Kent Greig, Oscar Lang, James Peter McDonough, Lou Rosefield and Paul Turnbull.

Famous Players came out with an announcement regarding curtailed hours at 12 major neighborhood and suburban units until generators can be put into commission. The Allens announced no power breaks at their theatres outside the city limits, the Willow, Major Rogers Road, Mount Dennis and the Capitol, New Toronto. Inside the city, however, the Premier theatres were affected like the others.

* * *

Charlie Mavety tells us that the Winnipeg branch of the Canadian Picture Pioneers is holding its Annual Meeting, Dinner and Dance on December 6th, and extends a cordial invitation to any Toronto members who might be able to attend. If you're going to be in Winnipeg around that date, contact Mr. Mavety.

* * *

Famous Players opened the Centre Theatre on Wyandotte Street East, Windsor, on Nov. 11 with a double-bill policy for subsequent-run pictures, the opening program consisting of "It Happened on 5th Avenue" and "Song of the South". The bill is changed twice weekly.

Adult prices are 35c for the matinee and 44c after 5 p.m. while juvenile admissions range from 14c to 25c.

* * *

Morris Manoff, of the Bedford Theatre in North Toronto, got the surprise of the week when he opened his morning mail this Monday and found — a note of thanks from the recipient of a pass. It seems that in all his years in show business he has never had this happen despite the fact that hundreds of free passes are distributed every year. Pass involved was one of a number that had been donated to the North York Horticultural Society, and the writer of the letter had won it in a draw.

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New dinnerware premiums made their appearance at a number of Toronto neighborhood theatres on Nov. 15 including the Royce, Allenby, Granada and LaSalle . . . In spite of the blackout confusion, "The Best Years of Our Lives" continued for a fourth week at the Odeon-Toronto; "Julia Misbehaves" was on for a third week at Loew's and there was a second week for "Rope" at the Imperial, "June Bride" at Shea's and "Hills of Home" at the Uptown.

* * *

Announcement of the appointment of Vic Nowe as manager of the new Odeon Hyland, which is opening at Toronto on Nov. 22 with "Hamlet", caused some surprise in theatre circles. Nowe had served as assistant to Jim Hardiman at the Danforth and was the house manager of the Kent at Montreal during the engagement of "Hamlet" which completed its eighth week there on Nov. 13.

* * *

The engagement of "Quiet Weekend" at the Avenue Theatre, Montreal, has gone to its fifth week . . . "Will It Happen Again"? based on the love-life of Hitler and Eva Braun, was a hold-over in its Kitchener run and was held for a second week at the Beacon in Winnipeg.

MPTAO Elects Officers

The following officers have been announced to conduct the business of the Motion Picture Theatre Association of Ontario: President, H. C. D. Main; Vice-President, Roy Miller, Lincoln Theatre, St. Catherines; Treasurer, Wm. Summerville, Jr.; Secretary. George Peters.

The membership and organizational committee of three comprises Lou Rosefield of the Westdale, Hamilton—Chairman; and Floyd Rumford of the Kineto, Forrest and Morris Berlin of the Somerset, Ottawa. The budget and finance committee has as its chairman William Summerville, Jr., and assisting him are Morris Stein and Herb Allen.

Odeon Takes Over Twin Cities With Twin Openings

Archie Laurie supervised a swell job of publicity for the opening of the two Odeon Theatres at Port Arthur and Fort William on two successive nights. Representing the head office at the openings were Vice-president G. H. Peters, General Manager Clare Appel and Laurie. The mayors officiated at the openings and welcomed the two theatres on behalf of their cities.

The Fort William Times-Journal published a special 12-page supplement, the Port Arthur News-Chronicle came out with an 11-page section for the dual openings, and both papers editorially welcomed Odeon and thanked them for their faith in the progress of the Two Cities. The Fort William house has 998 seats, while the capacity of the Port Arthur showplace is 983. Both theatres feature a smoking loge of 250 seats in the balconies. The opening pictures were "Blanche Fury" and "Jassy".

Steve McManus is district manager and will manage the Fort William house with Leonard McGuire, formerly of the Somerset in Ottawa, as Port Arthur manager. Both theatres were designed by the late Jay English and built at a cost of $350,000 each.

Odeon, Port Arthur, Opens — First of Twin

In the foyer of the Odeon Theatre, Port Arthur, Ontario on the opening night, Thursday, November 4th. Left to right: Len McGuire, manager of the new house; Mayor Charles E. Cox of Port Arthur; Don Gauld, Odeon District Manager; and Steve McManus, manager of the other twin, the Odeon, Fort William, which opened its doors the next day in the first dual opening to our knowledge in Canada.

ALL SMILES AS FIVE-YEAR, EAGLE-LION AGA KHAN DEAL COMPLETED

Alfredo Zappelli (seated left), Managing Director of Gamma Films and Gestion poses with Arthur B. Krim, President of Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films, upon completion of the signing of a five-year agreement for the distribution of the Eagle-Lion Hollywood product in six European countries. Looking on are Pierre Chavenes, associate of Zappelli, Robert Benjamin, President of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., Robert Purcell, Chairman of the Board of Pathe Industries and Sam Seidelman, E-L foreign export manager.

Jack Nelson Passes Missed By All Showmen

A pioneer in the industry, a leading showmen, a grand guy, John Herbert (Jack) Nelson, 63, manager of the Capitol Theatre, North Bay, died in hospital Tuesday November 9. He had been critically ill for a week with a heart ailment.

JACK NELSON

Jack's career follows closely the path of Canadian show business itself. As a youth he showed his love of the theatre by assisting the manager of the old Opera House in North Bay to handle scenery and props when travelling road shows came to town. As a young man he took his first road job with a circus, and later acted as advance agent for a number of road shows travelling throughout Canada and the U.S.A. In the early 1900's he became manager of the old Grand Opera House in Sudbury, where he remained for five years before being appointed travelling representative for the Pathe Corporation in Ontario. He stayed with them for six years then joined Famous Players as a traveller. After complete training in all phases of show business, Jack was appointed manager of the Capitol Theatre in North Bay in 1929. Since then he has received numerous awards for his outstanding promotion on film campaigns.

A veteran of the first World War, his contribution to the conduct of the Second was prodigious. He was in the forefront of almost every phase of the war effort.

In 1947, he decided to run for public office and was elected to the city council. The flag on the city hall of North Bay was lowered to half-mast in tribute to the memory and life time activities of Ald. Jack Nelson. The Mayor of North Bay paid tribute to Jack Nelson in a public statement calling him "A friend of children" and extolling his public work and contribution to the war effort.

He was a life member of the Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers and belonged to most of the trade organizat ons as well as being an active Mason and Shriner and member of the Board of Trade.

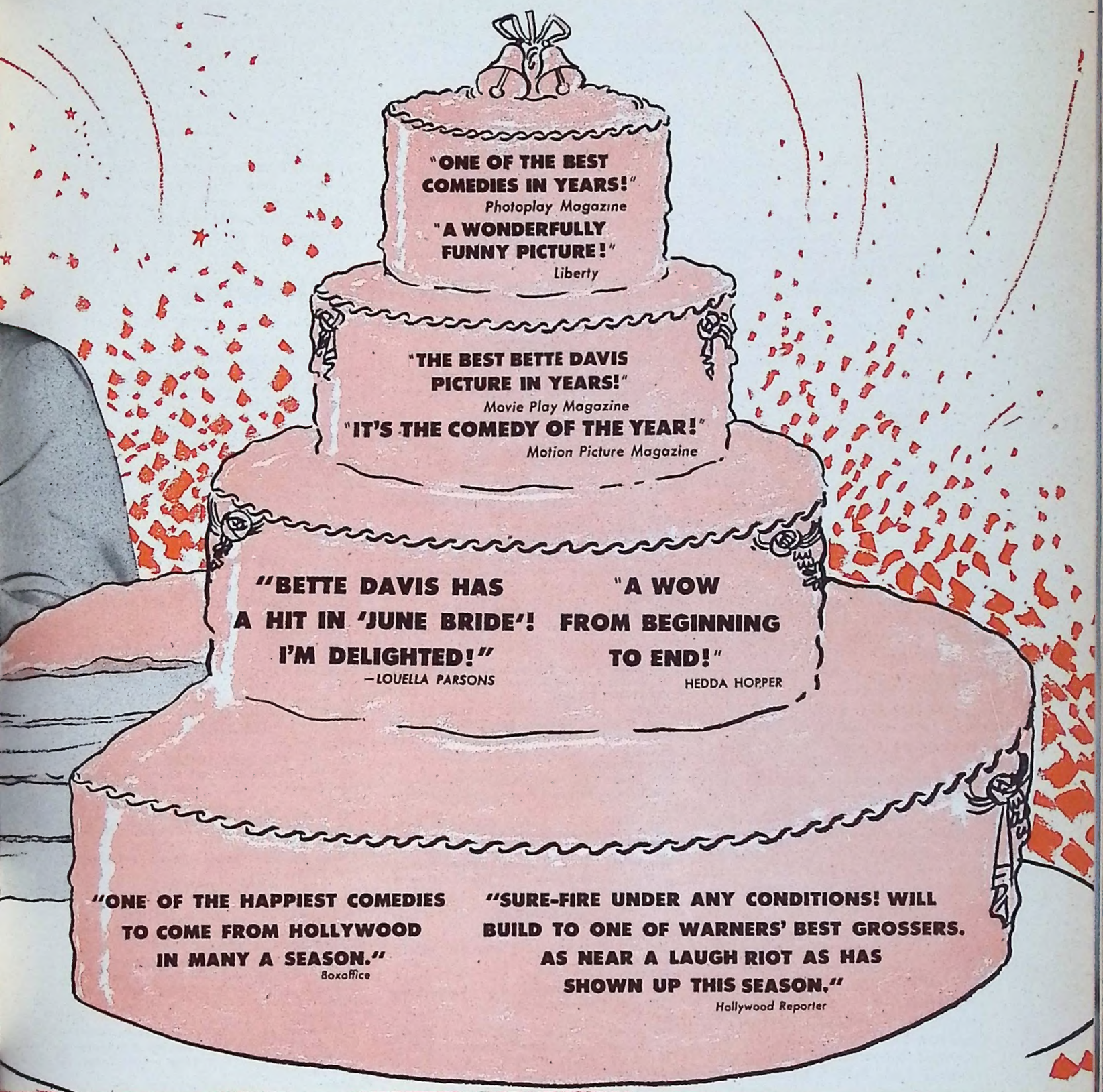
Jack Nelson was married at Chapleau 42 years ago to the former Mary Lamarche, and he is survived by his wife, one son, Herbert Edward Nelson, Timmins, and a daughter Irene Nelson, North Bay.

DID YOU READ ABOUT THE TERRIFIC

RECEPTION FOR WARNE

BETTE DAVIS ★ ROBERT MONTGOMERY

R BROS.' "JUNE BRIDE"


"ONE OF THE BEST COMEDIES IN YEARS!"
Photoplay Magazine
"A WONDERFULLY FUNNY PICTURE!"
Liberty
"THE BEST BETTE DAVIS PICTURE IN YEARS!"
Movie Play Magazine
"IT'S THE COMEDY OF THE YEAR!"
Motion Picture Magazine
"BETTE DAVIS HAS A HIT IN 'JUNE BRIDE'! I'M DELIGHTED!"
—LOUELLA PARSONS
"A WOW FROM BEGINNING TO END!"
HEDDA HOPPER
"ONE OF THE HAPPIEST COMEDIES TO COME FROM HOLLYWOOD IN MANY A SEASON."
Boxoffice
"SURE-FIRE UNDER ANY CONDITIONS! WILL BUILD TO ONE OF WARNERS' BEST GROSSERS. AS NEAR A LAUGH RIOT AS HAS SHOWN UP THIS SEASON."
Hollywood Reporter

JUNE BRIDE

with FAY BAINTER BETTY LYNN TOM TULLY

directed by BRETAIGNE WINDUST · produced by HENRY BLANKE

Screen Play by Ranald MacDougall • Based on a Play by Eileen Tighe and Graeme Lorimer

Vancouver News

By JACK DROY

ROY McLEOD, Vogue Theatre manager, is proud of his daughter Marilyn who has been given a part in "Oklahoma" and has left to join the famous musical comedy's cast in the United States. Miss McLeod appeared here in "The Theatre Under The Stars" this summer and was auditioned for "Oklahoma" when the show was in Vancouver last August.

* * *

Vancouver first-runs with few exceptions are doing ordinary business. The extra holiday revenue last week was a help of course, but for the most part the overall figure is not too impressive. Leaders were "Tap Roots" at Vogue on second week and "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" at Strand for the 3rd week . . . Herb Call, former Columbia Pictures' Calgary manager, has, since returning home to Vancouver, entered the real estate business and reports it is booming . . . Corkum and Sterlin, two local boys, are building Port Moody's first moving picture theatre. Opening in December, house will seat 324, and operate four days weekly. Town is situated a few miles from New Westminster — population 1500.

* * *

The first moving picture house in Port Coquitlam, B.C. will open on November 20. Theatre will seat 445 and operate on a six day policy. Harry Howard of Theatre Equipment Supply Company is installing booth equipment and theatre seats . . . The divorced husband of Madame Melba, famous Australian singer, died this week in Victoria, age 90. He has been living at Shawinigan Lake on Vancouver Island . . . Destruction of a large quantity of obscene movie and still pictures was ordered by the Court of Appeal. At the same time the court confirmed the 15-month jail sentence on Harold Hirst, Vancouver professional photographer, who was appealing the sentence. Forty-four reels and a large number of stills were in the exhibits destroyed by court action.

* * *

The Film Exchange Employees will hold their annual Christmas party on December 3rd at the Pacific Athletic Club. Committee expects 150 *guests . . . Registered under the B.C. companies' act were Canadian Selznick Releasing Company and International Film Distributors Ltd., both with Toronto and Vancouver offices . . . Cupid is still busy with show girl lassies — Lillian Davis of the Kitsilano staff became a bride on November 6th, and will reside in Saskatoon; Shirley Beaton of Kerrisdale Theatre was married Nov. 6th, but will return to show business after the honeymoon; Marjorie Curtis of the Orpheum staff will be married in December.*

* * *

A Vancouver newspaper said that the movie industry — and the public — could stand more films like 20th-Fox's "Apartment For Peggy" and "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House". SRO release. The boxoffice backed this up. Both were held over at the Famous Players' Strand Theatre in Vancouver . . . It's getting to be a habit with Ivan Ackery, Orpheum Theatre manager, to win exploitation contests. Having won the Digest and Quigley awards, he now comes up the winner of International Distributors "T Man" contest, being first in the Dominion with his top notch campaign. He will receive his cheque for $250 at the Famous Players' convention here next week. Congratulations, Ivan the Terrible.

* * *

Ivan Ackery and his Orpheum staff are celebrating their twenty-first anniversary this week. Ackery landed a full page of congratulatory messages from the local downtown merchants boosting the theatre and the current film, "A Southern Yankee" . . . Don Colman, head of Trans-Canada Films and Steffens-Colmer studios and Marvin Thoreau, Gaumont-Kalee manager, have left for Toronto and Eastern Canada on business trips. It's rumored that Marvin Thoreau will bring a wife back with him.

Trans-Canada Showing

Use This Information As Your Guide On Release Dates

TORONTO

BILTMORE
"Brigham Young" (Fox), with Tyrone Power and Linda Darnell. Also "The Counterfeiters" (Fox), with Lon Chaney.

DOWNTOWN
2nd week. "Canon City" (Int'l), with Scott Brady and Mabel Paige. Also "Speed to Spare" (Par.), with Richard Arlen and Jean Rogers.

EGLINTON-TIVOLI
"Road House" (Fox), with Richard Widmark and Ida Lupino.

FAIRLAWN-DANFORTH
"The Babe Ruth Story" (Mono.), with William Bendix and Claire Trevor. Also "French Leave" (Mono.) with Jackie Cooper and Jackie Coogan.

IMPERIAL
2nd week. "Rope" (WB), Technicolor, with James Stewart, John Dall and Jean Chandler.

LOEW'S
3rd week. "Julia Misbehaves" (MGM) with Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon.

NORTOWN-VICTORIA
"Black Eagle" (Col.), with William Bishop and Virginia Patton. Also "I Surrender Dear" (Col.), with Gloria Jean and David Street.

ODEON-TORONTO
4th week. "The Best Years of Our Lives" (RKO), with Myrna Loy and Fredric March.

SHEA'S
2nd week. "June Bride" (WB), with Bette Davis and Robert Montgomery.

UPTOWN
2nd week. "Hills of Home" (MGM), Technicolor, a Lassie picture with Edmund Gwenn and Janet Leigh.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
"So Evil My Love" (Par.), with Ray Milland and Ann Todd.

IMPERIAL
"The Search" (MGM), with Montgomery Clift and Aline MacMahon.

LOEW'S
3rd week. "A Date With Judy" (MGM), Technicolor, with Jane Powell, Elizabeth Taylor and Wallace Beery.

PALACE
"That Lady in Ermine" (Fox), Technicolor, with Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks Jr.

PRINCESS
3rd week. "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" (UI), with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"A Double Life" (UI), with Ronald Colman and Signe Hasso.

MAYFAIR
"Of Mice and Men" (Alliance), with Burgess Meredith and Betty Field. Also "Brooklyn Orchid" (Alliance), with William Bendix and Marjorie Woodworth.

PARAMOUNT
"A Date With Judy" (MGM), Technicolor, with Jane Powell, Elizabeth Taylor and Wallace Beery.

STRAND
"Corsican Brothers" (Int'l), with Douglas Fairbanks Jr., and Ruth Warrick.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
2nd week. "Easter Parade" (MGM), Technicolor, with Judy Garland and Fred Astaire.

GAIETY
2nd week. "Big City" (MGM), with Lotte Lehman, Edward Arnold and Margaret O'Brien.

METROPOLITAN
"Beyond Glory" (Par.) with Alan Ladd and Donna Reed. Also "Half-Past Midnight" (Fox), with Kent Taylor and Peggy Knudsen.

ODEON
3rd week. "The Best Years of Our Lives" (RKO), with Myrna Loy and Fredric March.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"A Date With Judy" (MGM), Technicolor, with Jane Powell, Elizabeth Taylor and Wallace Beery.

GRAND
2nd week. "The Best Years of Our Lives" (RKO), with Myrna Loy and Fredric March.

PALACE
"Berlin Express" (RKO), with Merle Oberon and Robert Lucas.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
"Night Has a Thousand Eyes" (Par.), with Edward G. Robinson and Gail Russell.

INTERNATIONAL-CINEMA
"A Foreign Affair" (Par.), with Jean Arthur, Marlene Dietrich and John Lund. Also "Mr. Reckless" (Par.), with William Eythe and Barbara Britton.

ORPHEUM
"That Lady in Ermine" (Fox), Technicolor, with Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks Jr. Also "Temptation Harbour" with Robert Newton.

PLAZA
"The Return of Wildfire" (Card.), Sepiatone, with Richard Arlen and Patricia Morrison. Also "Jungle Goddess" (Card.), with George Reeves and Wanda McKay.

STRAND
"Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" (RKO), with Cary Grant and Myrna Loy.

VOGUE
"Tap Roots" (UI), Technicolor, with Van Heflin and Susan Hayward.

« Capital Story »

By WILL McLAUGHLIN

REMEMBRANCE DAY, the last of the holidays before Christmas, drew many thousands Uptown for the traditional open air services at 11 a.m. on Parliament Hill. First and subsequent run theatres along Sparks, Bank and Rideau Streets did SRO business as the people stopped off to see a matinee show following the service on the "hill". The closing of Government offices and schools added thousands of civil servants and children to the crowds which set up new attendance records for matinee and evening picture shows on November 11.

* * *

Mrs. Ray Tubman, wife of the Capitol Theatre's popular manager, is presently on an extended visit to relatives and friends in Western Canada . . . The annual "cellar to booth" inspection of all theatres in Ottawa and district was carried out last week by Ontario provincial theatre inspectors Pollock and Scholes.

* * *

Donat Paquin's Laurier Theatre, across the River in Hull, Quebec, has blossomed forth with a very attractive upright sign and marquee giving a blaze of light in front of Mr. Paquin's picture palace. Hull theatres these days — and nights — are a marked contrast to theatres in Ottawa which are practically blacked out on the marquees and entrances in compliance with Ontario Hydro power saving regulations. Centre town theatres have power cutoffs from 9 to ten every morning which have no effect on show schedules. Additional evening blackouts between the hours of 5 and 6 are announced in the new regulations, becoming effective next week. Managers are all in a dither trying to figure a way to keep their patrons in good humor during the early evening power cutoffs.

* * *

Frank Gallop, genial manager of the Glebe (Odeon) Theatre, has tucked away his tuxedo and black tie in mothballs after three weeks of "dressing up" for Sir Laurence Olivier's "Hamlet" engagement at the South End Theatre. The Glebe is now presenting subsequent run features nightly from 6.30 till closing, with matinees on Saturdays and holidays only.

* * *

Win Barron scored another scoop for his Paramount Canadian Newsreel with a very interesting sequence concerning the US Presidential election. Win's "news special" was shown on the Regent Theatre screen less than 24 hours after Mr. Dewey conceded President Truman's re-election . . . Although patronage at the two Drive-In theatres in the district has slowed up considerably, they are still open to the motor-car trade. Both open-air shows have been given a new lease on life by the particularly mild spell of weather which is unusual hereabouts in November.

TRADE HEADLINES

U.S. Envoy Feels That British Film Quota Will Stick Indefinitely

●

RKO Divorcement Becomes Official

●

Kusell Resigns Sales Post at SRO Sidney Deneau New Sales Head

●

Charles Einfeld to 20th Century-Fox As Advertising and Publicity Chief

●

Selznick Deal With UA Would Call For Physical Distribution

●

Eagle-Lion Going 90% Independent Will Finance Pictures To $7,500,000

●

Warners' Slowdown Makes 1,000 Jobless

●

Hollywood Un-American Activities Hearings To Be Abandoned

●

Charles Schlaifer Resigns Fox Post Goes Into Business For Himself

●

BBC Plans Large-Scale Large-Screen TV Operations — Exhibitors Keen

●

Jack Schlaifer Upped To EL General Sales Manager

●

"Joan" Grosses $10,500 First Day At Victoria Theatre, N.Y. — 1,100 Seats

●

NBC's $4,000,000 Deal With Jack Benny Includes Purchase of Film Interests

●

U.S. Trust Case Postponed To Nov. 29 Court Urges Agreement in the Interim

●

Eagle-Lion Backlog Shuts Studio Till the New Year

●

20th-Fox Planning Re-issue Drive

●

England Will Produce 80 In 1948—Wilcox

●

Automobile Giveaways By L.A. Chain

Ottawa members of 20th Century Theatres who attended the annual convention of the circuit in Toronto on November 3, included Ernest Warren (Dual Elgin), Don Watts (Nelson), Frank Paul (Imperial), Barney Simmons (Rideau) and Ted Smiley of the Victoria . . . Exchange executives and salesmen seen in and about the Chateau Laurier, the Lord Elgin, and Uptown Theatre offices the past week included Russ Simpson, of Paramount Pictures; Harvey Kathron, of Selznick Releasing, and Abe Cass, of Columbia.

Although nothing definite is available at the moment, it is understood in show circles that Odeon is about ready to complete negotiations which will add another theatre to its circuit in Ottawa. Odeon now operates the Centre, a first-run theatre on busy Sparks Street, in partnership with Donn B. Stapleton; the Glebe on Bank Street South, and the Rexy, at the corner of Somerset and Lorne Avenue. The Nola located on Wellington Street West, and until recently operated by Odeon, has been closed to the public and will probably be turned into business premises.

FROM COLUMBIA—12 MONTHS OF PICTURE

In Release

RED SKELTON · JANET BLAIR
in
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN

In Release

RITA HAYWORTH · GLENN FORD
in
THE LOVES OF CARMEN
color by TECHNICOLOR

In Release

RANDOLPH SCOTT · MARGUERITE CHAPMAN
in
CORONER CREEK
in CINECOLOR

In Release

SONNY TUFTS · BARBARA BRITTON
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
in **THE UNTAMED BREED**
in CINECOLOR

In Release

DOROTHY LAMOUR · GEORGE MONTGOMERY
in
LULU BELLE

In Production

GAIL SABU · TURHAN RUSSELL · BEY
in
SONG OF INDIA

In Release

LOUIS HAYWARD · JANET BLAIR
in ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S
THE BLACK ARROW

To Be Released Soon

LARRY PARKS · MARGUERITE CHAPMAN
in
THE GALLANT BLADE
in CINECOLOR

To Be Released Soon

GLENN FORD · TERRY MOORE
in
THE RETURN OF OCTOBER
color by TECHNICOLOR

To Be Released Soon

GLENN FORD · WILLIAM HOLDEN
in
THE MAN FROM COLORADO
color by TECHNICOLOR

In Release

LOUIS HAYWARD · DENNIS O'KEEFE
in **WALK A CROOKED MILE**

JOHNNY WEISSMULLER
in
2 JUNGLE JIM Pictures
Based on the famous King Features Syndicate Newspaper Feature

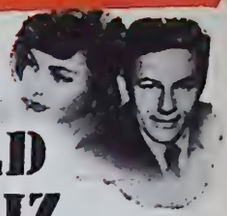
P.S. and the biggest news in pictures... coming—

RELEASED...TO BE RELEASED...AND PRODUCED

In Production

HUMPHREY
BOGART
in
KNOCK ON ANY DOOR
Based on the great best-selling novel

In Production



JENNIFER JONES · JOHN GARFIELD
PEDRO **ARMENDARIZ**
in **ROUGH SKETCH**

In Production

CORNEL WILDE · PATRICIA KNIGHT
in
THE LOVERS
(tentative title)

In Production

GLENN FORD · EVELYN KEYES
in **MR. SOFT TOUCH**

In Production

WILLIAM HOLDEN · NINA FOCH · LEE J. COBB
in
THE DARK PAST

To Be Produced

RANDOLPH **SCOTT**
as
WILD BILL DOOLIN
The Oklahoma Outlaw

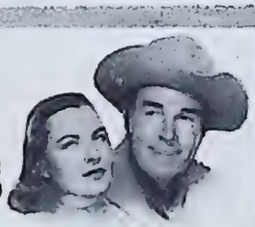
In Production

GLENN FORD · NINA FOCH
in **THE UNDERCOVER MAN**

To Be Produced

GEORGE **RAFT**
in
THE BIG JUMP

In Production



RANDOLPH SCOTT · ELLA RAINES
in
THE WALKING HILLS

To Be Produced

LUCILLE **BALL**
in
MISS GRANT TAKES RICHMOND

And in addition...

THE SERIAL SENSATION—SUPERMAN
27 FEATURE ATTRACTIONS
2 GENE AUTRY PRODUCTIONS
8 DURANGO KID WESTERNS WITH CHARLES STARRETT AND "SMILEY" BURNETTE
2 ROY ACUFF SPECIAL WESTERNS
4 GREAT SERIALS
60 SINGLE REELS
24 COLOR CARTOONS
28 TWO REEL COMEDIES

LARRY PARKS in JOLSON SINGS AGAIN!
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

The World Sees America On A Movie Screen

Editorial in the "Louisville Courier Journal", Nov. 1, 1948

The American movie industry is showing signs of growing up. Those of us who have felt that its infancy has been unduly prolonged can get some satisfaction from the attitude taken by Gael Sullivan, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America. He spoke to Kentucky movie exhibitors the other day in a vein of admirable seriousness.

There was little of the usual discussion about improving receipts at the box office. Mr. Sullivan dwelt instead on the responsibilities of the industry, which has sometimes been accused of having more power than judgment. "The day of the buccaneer in the motion picture is gone," he warned. He believes the movies must now concern themselves with their duties as "the greatest educational medium known," and as builders of international good will.

He cited some good examples of the educational use of films, such as a wartime device for instructing Chinese mechanics in the care of American jeeps and airplane engines. The Chinese had never seen such complicated pieces of machinery when they first came into their beleaguered country over the Burma Road. It would have taken them months to learn their use by ordinary teaching methods, and the damage would have been terrible to contemplate. Training films showed them all they needed to know in a matter of days.

The responsibility of the movie industry in the realm of international affairs is still weightier. Many millions of people all over the world know America only through the images they see on movie screens. The impression those images make is a vital factor in our chances to win the cold war against Communism, a war which is fought in the minds of human beings. Eric Johnston, president of the U.S. Motion Picture Association, recently put through a deal to sell a number of American movies to Russia, and an additional 20 to 25 a year to Yugoslavia. Will those pictures help or hinder our effort to get a true understanding of democratic life in America across to the people behind the Iron Curtain?

The movie makers must consider this factor. Nobody wants them to present American life as invariably perfect, for intelligent people know that human affairs are just not ordered in that ideal way, under any form of government. We do not want ourselves represented as a nation of millionaires or of gangsters. All we ask the film makers is to show us in something we can recognize as a reflection of ordinary American life. That would represent the best foot we could put forward with foreign audiences. Gael Sullivan advocates this sort of serious approach to movie responsibilities and his years of experience as executive director of the Democratic National Committee make him much better than a green hand at public relations.

RAY PRESENTS

(*Continued from Page* 3)

WHEN we are young, we have not the capacity for the appreciation of friendships, we have not yet accumulated memories, but as the years count up, how good is that gift which has made friendships, and which has retained them.

Many years ago I visited St. John and other towns and cities in the Maritime Provinces. Some of those whom I knew, like Walter Golding, like Acker, have passed on. It was in a little town close by, that I met a dear friend, the Rev. Dr. Robert Norwood, poet and preacher, who until his death, always came to the little town of his birth for his holiday. I can see the little church in which he first preached, and his last church, St. Bartholomew's on Fifth Avenue, New York City.

In talking to several members of our film trade here, they told me they remember the boyhood of Louis B. Mayer, others tell stories concerning the boyhood and manhood of Lord Beaverbrook, and the late Lord Bennett.

I heard that many years ago, a motion picture was made here with Norma Shearer as its star, and in the office of Mr. Fred Spencer I saw a photograph of exhibitors and distributors dating back to 1917, Clair Hague, Joe Franklin, Louis Rosenfeld, the late Maurice West, Archie Mason, and many others in our Film Trade were not much more than youngsters then.

VISITED the new Paramount Theatre at St. John, with a seating capacity just under 1,500. The stream-lined decorative plan has been followed, and while the seats in the smoking loges are push-back seats, the seats in the orchestra section are not push-back, but about the best I ever sat in, for luxurious comfort.

You would long for a duplicate of the snack-bar, with its circular counter and stool seats.

The lobby planning has been skillfully worked out, providing waiting space, where patrons may meet, each rendezvous containing a degree of privacy since it is away from the central lobby space.

To walk through the basement and to examine the engineering plan, covering heating, refrigeration, air-conditioning is like walking into the engine-room of an ocean-liner.

I HAVE always said that a new and beautiful theatre soon dresses up a street, and this is happening in St. John. The business section of the square will soon have some very fine buildings and stores. Merchants already are putting on new fronts.

Odeon has a parcel of property, I am told, on the other side of the square, facing the Spencer Theatres. This property has been emptied of tenants, which indicates that Odeon is preparing to build a theatre.

Mr. Doane of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors, was a guest at the Exhibitors' dinner, as was, also Mr. Owen of the New Brunswick Censor Board. I met the Dominion Sound St. John's office representatives J. E. Tagg and Cece Johnston, and as I write I am preparing to motor with Joe Lieberman and Maurice Ellman to Halifax, which is approximately 250 miles from St. John.

Gordon Spencer officiated as chairman at the Exhibitors' Dinner Wednesday, November 10th. Archie Mason left St. John that evening to attend the conference of Mayors at Ottawa.

I must tell you that in St. John, we of Ontario are referred to as coming from Upper Canada, while those who come from the Maritime Provinces are referred to as residing in Lower Canada.

I thought that such a division of Canada was strange, and I certainly joked about our designation, which may have been in order prior to Confederation.

I met the nephew of Max King, Jack Freeman, who told me that his uncle would produce a story on the R.C.M.P. He had already produced some pictures at Hollywood including "Killer-Dill".

To a Waiting World..

WORLD PREMIERE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1948

VICTORIA THEATRE

Broadway at 46th St., New York, N.Y.

JOAN OF ARC

starring **INGRID BERGMAN**

A **VICTOR FLEMING** PRODUCTION

Produced by **WALTER WANGER**

Directed by **VICTOR FLEMING**

Based on the Stage Play "JOAN of LORRAINE" by MAXWELL ANDERSON

Color By TECHNICOLOR

A CAST OF THOUSANDS

with JOSE FERRER

FRANCIS L. SULLIVAN • J. CARROL NAISH • WARD BOND

SHEPPERD STRUDWICK • HURD HATFIELD • GENE LOCKHART

JOHN EMERY • GEORGE COULOURIS • JOHN IRELAND and CECIL KELLAWAY

Screenplay by MAXWELL ANDERSON and ANDREW SOLT • Art Direction by RICHARD DAY

Director of Photography JOSEPH VALENTINE, A.S.C.

Presented by SIERRA PICTURES, INC. • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES

Republic Schedule Up To 54 10 Top Budgeters Included

Thirty-four features, sixteen outdoor action dramas and westerns, four serials and four one-reel novelties constitute Republic's 1948-49 program as announced by Herbert J. Yates, company president, and James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution. This marks an increase of 14 features over last year's production schedule.

Republic's own Trucolor process, introduced two years ago, will be used for three million-dollar productions on the schedule, and will also continue to be employed for the four Roy Rogers starrers. Continued research and improvement of the Trucolor process have resulted in its marked acceptance as a box office stimulant.

Story values, top-star box office draw, and showmanship in title, theme and exploitation potentialities are being accented in the program, Yates stated, in announcing that the new schedule includes ten top-drawer productions, as well as four deluxe specials to be produced at the company studio by important independent producers.

Heading the big-budget schedule are two productions starring John Wayne. They are the recently completed "Wake of the Red Witch", in which Wayne appears with Gail Russell, Gig Young, Adele Mara and Luther Adler, and the up-coming "Eagles in Exile", which Wayne will also produce.

The three Trucolor deluxe productions are: "The Last Bandit", starring William Elliott, Forrest Tucker and Adrian Booth; "Belle of the Gold Coast", back-grounded in the fabulous, colorful days of the California gold strike; and "The Vanishing Westerner", also starring Elliott.

Other pictures in the million-dollar classification include: "The Sea Eagle", starring Rod Cameron and Adele Mara; "Panama Passage", a thrilling Rex Beach story starring George Brent and Vera Ralston; "The Golden Hoarde", with an all-star cast; "Faces in the Sun", romantic melodrama also starring Brent and Miss Ralston; and "Crosswinds".

Maritime News

By A. L. FAIRWEATHER

The Town Council of Sackville, N.B., has appointed a committee to study and draft a bill to enable the town to collect an amusement tax. This bill, it is expected, will be ready in time to be presented at the next session of the N.B. Legislature. It was suggested that since the Federal Government's removal of the amusement tax the town might find in an amusement tax a source of revenue which was necessary in order to finance town services.

* * *

Dave White has been appointed assistant manager of the Empress and Capitol theatres at Moncton, following some years in Halifax as manager of the Garrick Theatre. Mr. White, who says he feels he "has come home to Moncton," was formerly at the Capitol and is enjoying his return to the Hub City. He tells your correspondent that Fred Winter, former owner of the two theatres, is hale and hearty, enjoying fishing, hunting and life on his farm near Moncton.

IT'S A PROBLEM !

J. ARTHUR RANK
Presents
DULCIMER STREET
based on Norman Collins' popular novel
"London Belongs To Me"

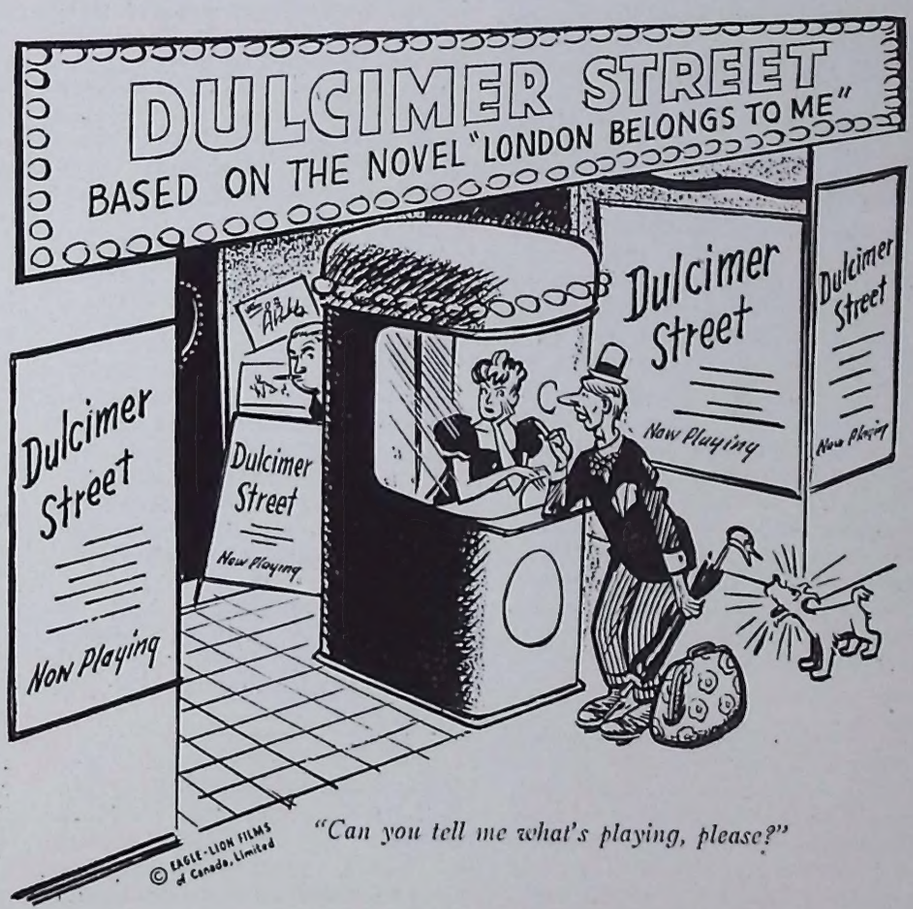
RICHARD ATTENBOROUGH
FAY COMPTON
ALASTAIR SIM
ANDREW CRAWFORD
SUSAN SHAW

Co-Producers: Sidney Gilliat and Frank Launder

Director: Sidney Gilliat

Contact your local EAGLE-LION Branch for fast play dates.

An EAGLE-LION Release



"Can you tell me what's playing, please?"

Winnipeg News

By J. J. CONKLIN

BUSINESS at all the Greater Winnipeg Theatres so far this fall has been greater than one year ago, according to the managers of leading houses called up by the Moving Picture Digest. Confirmation was given by Harold Bishop, Director of Famous Players' eight theatres; J. Miles, president of Western Theatres, Ltd., which controls thirty theatres in the district; Harry Horwitz, assistant-director of Manitoba Amusements, Ltd., of which Henry A. Morton is president, with four leading theatres in the city; Sammy Swartz, of the Rio; Bob Horwitz, of Starland; M. Triller, of the Dominion, and Bill Novak of the Capitol. The increase in attendance is no doubt largely due to the fine autumn weather which has favoured Winnipeg for the past two months, during which there has been no rain, except last week's drizzle. At the Lyceum, there is a better line of pictures being shown this season, and this is being appreciated by patrons.

* * *

There was a conference of Famous Players Theatre Managers from the Rockies to the Great Lakes in Winnipeg during the last week-end, when heads of the circuit from Toronto discussed business with over thirty of the leading managers of the corporation.

* * *

The financial report of the Pioneers Association and the Motion Picture Exhibitors on the picnic held last summer, which was well attended and greatly enjoyed, was presented at a meeting held this week, and showed a satisfactory balance, mnch to the credit of the committee . . . Many friends meeting this week-end with Mr. J. Miles, president of Western Theatres, were glad to see his improved health is bringing him back to his oldtime gaiety . . . Sam Weiner, one of the pioneers in the motion picture industry here, is also enjoying good health, and will leave this month to spend the winter in Florida.

* * *

Annual convention of the Manitoba North - Western Ontario Film Association was held in Brandon, Man., recently, when matters of great interest to the industry were discussed. No public statement was made at the close. Delegates from 50 film councils in Manitoba and Ontario attended.

* * *

The Dominion Theatre here recently inaugurated a new policy of playing one foreign film a month at advanced prices. The first one, Alliance Films' "Before Him All Rome Trembled", opened Wednesday, October 13th, and did so well it held for a second week. They followed with "The King's Jester" on November 3rd, which opened to even bigger business than "Rome". On the Dominion's schedule are "Pagliacci", "L'Elisir d'Amour", "Musica Proibita", "Secret of Don Giovanni" and "Mama" — all Italian films based on operas and featuring operatic arias.

Local film critics gave the picture high praise in their reviews.

Ben Geldsaler Hosts Winnipeg Film Managers

Mr. Ben Geldsaler, Head Booker for Famous Players Canadian Corporation in Toronto, was host at a luncheon for the film managers of Winnipeg at the York Suite in the Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg, on Saturday November 6th.

Mr. Geldsaler expressed his pleasure at being with his Winnipeg friends as it was his first visit to Winnipeg for over six years. Winnipeg's own "Fred Allen" in the person of Phil Geller spoke for the film managers.

The invited guests included Messrs. R. W. Bolstad, L. I. Bearg, E. A. Zorn, H. A. Bishop, G. E. Dowbiggin, Syl Gunn, J. Huber, A. Feinstein, Somer James, J. McPherson, Phil Geller, M. Bochnar, Frank Davis and Meyer Nackimson. Some of the film managers were unable to attend on account of being out of town on business.

« Prairie News »

By BRUCE PEACOCK

G. R. MILLER, Wynyard, was elected president of the Saskatchewan Motion Picture Exhibitors association when 43 members from all parts of the province met at the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina. Mr. Miller succeeds P. W. Mahon, Prince Albert, who had resigned. J. Duane McKenzie, Estevan, was named vice-president, J. D. Watson, Regina, was re-elected secretary and Jack Proudlove, also of Regina, was re-elected treasurer.

Discussions concerned taxation problems and arrangements with the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada. Exhibitors agreed to continue present arrangements with CAPAC.

A vote of thanks was extended to the provincial censor, D. J. Vaughan, for his fair judgment and criticism.

* * *

A neat stunt to publicize the Eagle and Lyric Theatres, Swift Current, Sask., is the distribution of monthly pocket calendars bearing a list of the attractions due at both theatres for the month. M. C. Healy and F. J. Lundholm of the Swift Current Amusement Co. are the operators of the theatres.

* * *

Don Hood, who has the Lux Theatre, Hudson Bay, Sask., has bought a hardware store at Tisdale, Sask. He already owns a hardware store in Hudson Bay.

Famous Players Heads Attend Winnipeg Meetings

A regional conference of managers and associates was held at the Royal Alexandra Hotel in Winnipeg on Sunday and Monday, November 7th and 8th. Managers and partners from Fort William, Port Arthur and Kenora, Ontario; Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon and Flin Flon, Manitoba; Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, North Battleford, Shaunavon and Weyburn, Saskatchewan, attended.

Messrs. J. J. Fitzgibbons, R. W. Bolstad, B. Geldsaler and J. B. Nairn were in attendance and the meetings were presided over by Mr. L. I. Bearg, Western Division Manager, assisted by Messrs. E. A. Zorn, Prairie Regional Supervisor, and H. A. Bishop, Manitoba District Manager.

The first subject discussed was "Service" and considerable time was given to this most important matter. Eddie Newman, Manager of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Theatre, gave an outline of the way in which he instructs his ushers and house staff in the performance of their duties. A demonstration of the methods of greeting the patrons and ushering them to seats was given by Miss Pearl Cansdale of the Metropolitan Theatre staff. Merchandising of confections was discussed by Ken Wells, the Winnipeg Manager of Theatre Confections Limited.

Jimmy Nairn gave a very interesting talk on advertising and screened a series of Institutional trailers. Ben Geldsaler outlined the product of the forthcoming season. John Ferguson, Superintendent of Maintenance and Construction, discussed maintenance problems and Charles Maybee, Manager of General Theatre Supplies Limited, also spoke on equipment and supplies. Other subjects discussed were Children's shows, New Year's Eve frolics and Christmas Gift Ticket sales.

Mr. R. W. Bolstad outlined a new form of budget control which is being put into effect immediately. He also spoke on some of the benefits which the Company has in effect and the amount of monies which have been paid by the insurance companies under the life insurance plan.

Following the last business session on Monday afternoon, a cocktail party and banquet were held in the Vice Regal Suite and Tea Lounge of the Royal Alexandra Hotel. A screening of the pictures of last year's Eastern and Western Conferences closed the festivities.

A display of the winning campaign books of the recent Canadian Moving Picture Digest Show of Showmanship created considerable attention, as did the winning campaigns of the "T-Men" contest. Another outstanding feature of the meeting was an attractive display of confections and equipment arranged by Ken Wells, local manager of Theatre Confections Limited.